

April 10, 1978

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unequivocally understanding what the danger is that is involved and what is going to happen. So, that is why I provide the third option to the utilities.

SENATOR KOCH: Well Senator Simon, it still bothers me, if you are a utility company and you have several thousands of people who generally are known to have a tendency to prolong their payments and you have to send certified mail to each and every one of those almost on a monthly basis that cost is going to necessarily be carried over to me and others who pay their bills on time, would it not?

SENATOR SIMON: The phone provision takes care of that Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: The phone provision? Now the phone is free also?

SENATOR SIMON: Yes, they don't have to use a pay phone.

SENATOR KOCH: I know that. How about long distance?

SENATOR SIMON: There would be very few cases Senator Koch where we are talking about long distance phone calls. If you are concerned about the fact....and if I am out of order you can stop me, because I am on your time. If you are concerned about the fact that we are talking about 5 or 10¢ or something, then I can't argue with you.

SENATOR KOCH: What does certified mail cost?

SENATOR SIMON: Certified mail would cost about \$1.00, Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Per letter.

SENATOR SIMON: Per letter.

SENATOR KOCH: Does that count into the fact what it takes to make that letter up? I'm talking about the help and everything else that goes with it. Is that \$1.00?

SENATOR SIMON: Senator Koch, utilities send a notice now anyway. So, this would not be an additional cost.

SENATOR KOCH: They don't send...

SENATOR SIMON: This would just have to be certified mail, that's all.

SENATOR KOCH: Certified mail, \$1.00 a letter.

SENATOR SIMON: I believe that is the basic cost Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: If you have 2,000 customers who are always sort of those who lag, that immediately will transcribe them \$2,000 additional cost per month.

SENATOR SIMON: If the utilities would not use the phone, which they would do.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you.

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